

214597US-3KK

#21A  
1-16-02  
R.V.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

HIROICHI INADA ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

SERIAL NO: NEW PATENT APPLICATION

:

FILED: HERewith

FOR: COATING UNIT AND COATING  
METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent  
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

**Please amend claim 3 as shown in the attachment. A clean copy of amended**

**Claim 3 is as follows:**

3. A coating unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

a carrier for carrying a coating solution supply nozzle for supplying the coating  
solution to the substrate which is placed inside said container;

A,  
an accommodating portion for accommodating said carrier which is disposed inside  
said casing; and

a third exhaust pipe for exhausting an atmosphere inside said accommodating portion.